

Message Text

UNCLASSIFIED

PAGE 01 STATE 126815

66

ORIGIN PRS-01

INFO OCT-01 CCO-00 RSC-01 SS-20 SSO-00 ISO-00 /023 R

DRAFTED BY S/PRS:JFKING:SM:PK

APPROVED BY S/PRS - JOHN KING

S/S - O: GTWOHIE

----- 019595

O 140138Z JUN 74 ZFF4

FM SECSTATE WASHDC

TO AMEMBASSY CAIRO IMMEDIATE

UNCLAS STATE 126815

TOSEC 201

E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: OVIP (KISSINGER, HENRY A.; NIXON, RICHARD M.)

SUBJECT: TV EVENING NEWS SURVEY, JUNE 13, 1974

1. NBC: CHANCELLOR OPENS WITH NOW NORMAL PICTURE ON BANKS OF NILE. EXTENSIVE COVERAGE OF TRAIN TRIP TO ALEXANDRIA WITH EMPHASIS ON SADAT/NIXON EXCHANGE WITH NEWSMEN ON TRAIN. NO REFERENCE TO SECRETARY.

2. ABC: AFTER EXTENSIVE LEAD OF NIXON/SADAT ACTIVITIES TODAY, ABC FOLLOWS WITH REPORTS ON PLANNED RECONSTRUCTION OF EGYPTIAN SUEZ CITIES AND PALESTINIAN ATTACK IN ISRAEL. FOURTH STORY RELATES TO UPCOMING ABC SPECIAL "KISSINGER -- AN ACTION BIOGRAPHY" SCHEDULED FOR FRIDAY, JUNE 14, AT 9:30 P.M. EDT. DEPARTMENT GAVE ABC PERMISSION TO CARRY EXCERPTS FROM PROGRAM IN ORDER TO PROMOTE PROGRAM. REASONER INTRODUCES:

REASONER: NEW JERSEY'S REPUBLICAN SENATOR CLIFFORD CASE TODAY ASKED THE ADMINISTRATION TO COOPERATE WITH THE SENATE FOREIGN RELATIONS COMMITTEE IN ITS INQUIRY INTO SECRETARY OF STATE KISSINGER'S DISPUTED ROLE IN WIRE-TAPPING. CASE SAID IF THE ADMINISTRATION GIVES THE COMMITTEE FBI RECORDS AND OTHER EVIDENCE, THE INQUIRY SHOULD NOT TAKE LONG.

UNCLASSIFIED

UNCLASSIFIED

PAGE 02 STATE 126815

LAST SATURDAY, AFTER THE WIRE-TAP CHARGES WERE RAISED IN

HIS WASHINGTON PRESS CONFERENCE, BUT BEFORE HE FLEW TO SALZBURG, KISSINGER TALKED WITH HOWARD K. SMITH AND TED KOPPEL ABOUT THE CONTROVERSY THAT WON'T DIE.
(SWITCH TO FILM OF HAK/SMITH/KOPPEL INTERVIEW.)

KOPPEL: MR. SECRETARY, A FEW DAYS AGO THE AMERICAN PUBLIC SAW SOMETHING THAT THEY RARELY SEE, AND THAT IS HENRY KISSINGER LOSING HIS TEMPER AT THE PRESS CONFERENCE. AND IT WAS ON THE SUBJECT OF WIRE-TAPPING. I WONDER IF YOU QUIETLY, CALMLY, WOULD EXPLAIN THE WHOLE CONTEXT OF THE WIRE-TAPPING IN 1969.

SECRETARY KISSINGER: IN 1969, A SERIES OF MAJOR LEAKS OCCURRED. THE PRESIDENT DECIDED, AFTER CONSULTATION WITH THE ATTORNEY GENERAL AND THE DIRECTOR OF THE FBI, TO INSTITUTE OR TO REINSTITUTE A SYSTEM THAT HAD EXISTED IN THE UNITED STATES GOVERNMENT SINCE THE PRESIDENCY OF FRANKLIN ROOSEVELT, NAMELY, THE USE OF WIRE TAPS TO PROTECT NATIONAL SECURITY INFORMATION. THE QUESTIONS THAT ARE RAISED IS -- WAS THIS PROCEDURE LEGAL. THERE IS NO QUESTION THAT IT WAS LEGAL WHEN IT WAS ORDERED BY THE PRESIDENT. DID IT FOLLOW PROPER PROCEDURES? EVERY INDIVIDUAL CASE WAS AUTHORIZED BY THE ATTORNEY GENERAL AND REQUESTED BY THE DIRECTOR OF THE FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION. IN NO CASE DID IT CONCERN ANY OTHER MATTER, EXCEPT THE LEAKAGE OF NATIONAL SECURITY INFORMATION.

KOPPEL: WELL, NOW, THE OTHER QUESTION THAT REMAINS IS WHETHER OR NOT YOU INITIATED OR WHETHER THE PRESIDENT INITIATED THE WIRE TAPS.

SECRETARY KISSINGER: THE PRESIDENT ORDERED THE INSTITUTION OF THE SYSTEM OF WIRE TAPS. I WAS ORDERED, AS PART OF THIS SYSTEM, TO SUPPLY THE NAMES OF INDIVIDUALS WHO HAD ACCESS TO INFORMATION THAT HAD LEAKED.

3. CBS: CBS OPENS WITH CRONKITE ON TRAIN AND RATHER COVERING ENTHUSIASTIC WELCOME IN ALEXANDRIA. NO REFERENCE TO SECRETARY EXCEPT FOR SEVERAID COMMENTARY, WHICH FOLLOWS:

UNCLASSIFIED

UNCLASSIFIED

PAGE 03 STATE 126815

A FEW WORDS ABOUT LEAKING FROM ONE WHO HAS DIFFICULTY REPLACING A WASHER IN THE BATHROOM. THE TROUBLE WITH THE CURRENT LEAKS INVOLVING HENRY KISSINGER'S CONNECTION WITH THE WIRETAPPING OF 13 GOVERNMENT OFFICIALS AND FOUR JOURNALISTS IS (A), THE LEAKS ARE UNNECESSARY BECAUSE THIS INFORMATION WILL ALMOST CERTAINLY COME OUT ANYWAY IN THE COURSE OF THE CONGRESSIONAL INVESTIGATIONS; (B), THE LEAKS ARE AT LEAST TEMPORARILY DAMAGING BECAUSE THEY ARE SELECT-

IVE IN NATURE. CHARGES ARE GENERAL, SIMPLE; DEFENSE AGAINST THEM BY KISSINGER OR ANYBODY ELSE IS GENERALLY COMPLEX AND TAKES TIME.

THE CURRENT LEAKS ARE NOT ONLY NOT TREASONOUS IN NATURE, AS SENATOR GOLDWATER SEEMS TO THINK. THEY DON'T EVEN HARM NATIONAL SECURITY. THESE DOCUMENTS WERE DECLASSIFIED BY THE JUSTICE DEPARTMENT. WHAT THEY VIOLATE IS A COURT ORDER SEALING THEM FOR THE CIVIL SUIT BY MR. MORTON HALPERIN, A TAPPEE AND FORMER ASSISTANT TO KISSINGER, A SUIT AGAINST THE SECRETARY AND OTHERS FOR ABUSING HIS CIVIL RIGHTS.

HALPERIN, INCIDENTALLY, WILL ASK THE JUDGE TOMORROW TO LIFT HIS ORDER SO THE SENATE FOREIGN RELATIONS COMMITTEE CAN USE THEM IN THE NEW INQUIRY THAT KISSINGER ASKED FOR.

THE LEAKS MAY BE ILL-TIMED -- BECAUSE THE PRESS IS NOT A DISCIPLINED ACTIVITY AND OUGHT NOT TO BE.

A CENTRAL IDEA OF THE FREE PRESS IS NOT THAT THE FULL, BALANCED TRUTH OF ANYTHING WILL BE PRESENTED IN ANY ONE ACCOUNT. BUT, AS MR. WALTER LIPPMANN ONCE PUT IT, WITH FULL REPORTING AND FULL DISCUSSION THE TRUTH WILL EMERGE.

MR. KISSINGER ARGUES THAT IF THE SECRETS OF OFFICIALS CAN BE PUBLISHED THEN THE SOURCES, THE LEAKERS, CANNOT BE KEPT SECRET BY THE PRESS.

BUT THE PURPOSES OF SECRECY IN THESE INSTANCES ARE QUITE DIFFERENT. THE PURPOSE OF OFFICIALS IS TO KEEP INFORMATION FROM THE PUBLIC. THE PURPOSE OF THE PRESS IN KEEPING ITS SOURCES CONFIDENTIAL IS TO GET THE INFORMATION TO THE UNCLASSIFIED

UNCLASSIFIED

PAGE 04 STATE 126815

PUBLIC.

MR. KISSINGER HIMSELF HAS TAKEN ADVANTAGE OF THIS PRINCIPLE MANY TIMES. HE HAS SELECTIVELY LEAKED CONFIDENTIAL DOCUMENTS TO TRUSTED JOURNALISTS, BUT CONCERNING POLICY CONTROVERSIES.

HE SAID IN HIS DRAMATIC SALZBURG APPEARANCE THAT HE FINDS LEAKING DISTASTEFUL AND WIRE-TAPPING DISTASTEFUL. THOSE HONORABLE MEN WHO ARE TAPPED DON'T FEEL THAT THEIR TASTE HAS BEEN OFFENDED. THEY FEEL THEY HAVE BEEN MORTALLY INSULTED. IT GOES INTO THEIR LIFETIME RECORDS. IT IS A PAIL OF GARBAGE IN THE FACE. NOT ONE OF THOSE 17 MEN IN OR OUT OF GOVERNMENT HAS BEEN FOUND GUILTY OF LEAKING, INDISCRETION, DAMAGING NATIONAL SECURITY OR ANYTHING ELSE,

AS ONE FBI REPORT MAKES CLEAR. YET NOT ONE OF THEM, WITH
THE EXCEPTION OF HALPERIN IN AN INDIRECT WAY, HAS RECEIVED
ANY OFFICIAL APOLOGY OR ANY DEFINITIVE CLEARING OF HIS
NAME, AS MR. KISSINGER DEMANDS FOR HIMSELF AND AS HE IS
ENTITLED TO DEMAND. SISCO

UNCLASSIFIED

NNN

Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptioning: X
Capture Date: 01 JAN 1994
Channel Indicators: n/a
Current Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
Concepts: TELEVISION COMMENTS, MINISTERIAL VISITS, CHIEF OF STATE VISITS, TOSEC 201
Control Number: n/a
Copy: SINGLE
Draft Date: 14 JUN 1974
Decaption Date: 01 JAN 1960
Decaption Note:
Disposition Action: n/a
Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Authority: n/a
Disposition Case Number: n/a
Disposition Comment:
Disposition Date: 01 JAN 1960
Disposition Event:
Disposition History: n/a
Disposition Reason:
Disposition Remarks:
Document Number: 1974STATE126815
Document Source: CORE
Document Unique ID: 00
Drafter: JFKING:SM:PK
Enclosure: n/a
Executive Order: N/A
Errors: N/A
Film Number: D740154-0314
From: STATE
Handling Restrictions: n/a
Image Path:
ISecure: 1
Legacy Key: link1974/newtext/t19740644/aaaablcq.tel
Line Count: 174
Locator: TEXT ON-LINE, ON MICROFILM
Office: ORIGIN PRS
Original Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
Original Handling Restrictions: n/a
Original Previous Classification: n/a
Original Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Page Count: 4
Previous Channel Indicators: n/a
Previous Classification: n/a
Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Reference: n/a
Review Action: RELEASED, APPROVED
Review Authority: WorrelSW
Review Comment: n/a
Review Content Flags:
Review Date: 14 JAN 2003
Review Event:
Review Exemptions: n/a
Review History: WITHDRAWN <04 SEP 2002 by PhilliRO, PRIVACY>; RELEASED <14 JAN 2003 by WorrelSW>; APPROVED <14 JAN 2003 by WorrelSW>
Review Markings:

Declassified/Released
US Department of State
EO Systematic Review
30 JUN 2005

Review Media Identifier:
Review Referrals: n/a
Review Release Date: n/a
Review Release Event: n/a
Review Transfer Date:
Review Withdrawn Fields: n/a
Secure: OPEN
Status: NATIVE
Subject: TV EVENING NEWS SURVEY, JUNE 13, 1974
TAGS: OVIP, PFOR, XF, (KISSINGER, HENRY A), (NIXON, RICHARD M)
To: CAIRO
Type: TE
Markings: Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 30 JUN 2005